

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 EUR-25 AID-20 PC-04 A-01

OPR-02 SY-04 OC-06 CCO-00 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01

SCS-03 SCA-01 FBO-01 OMB-01 SCCT-02 NIC-01 DRC-01

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FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2642

INFO USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 303

E. .O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS : PINS, E

SUBJ : SIT REP XVI

REF : A) ASMARA 295; B) ADDIS 4786

1. JOINT SECOND DIVISION-POLICE PATROLS ARE IN EVIDENCE THROUGHOUT ASMARA. THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF ETHIOPIA AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICE ARE CLOSED WITH JOINT PATROL IN FRONT OF BUILDINGS. A JEEP WITH MOUNTED MACHINE GUN IS STATIONED IN FRONT OF THE COURT BUILDING WITH JOINT SECURITY ELEMENTS ROAMING ABOUT. JOINT SECURITY ELEMENTS ARE ALSO IN FRONT OF SEDAO (ELECTRIC COMPANY) BUILDING WHICH IS REMAINING IN OPERATION. THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICE IN ASMARA IS ON STRIKE. THOSE SERVICES WHICH ARE AUTOMATIC REMAIN IN OPERATION BUT SERVICES REQUIRING OPERATORS SUCH AS INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE AND TELEX HAVE CEASED.

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2. A TOTAL OF 9 GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE NOW BEEN ARRESTED

BY JOINT SECURITY ELEMENT. THE ARRESTED OFFICIALS INCLUDE VICE MIN FOR AFFAIRS SOLOMON TECLE. THE ARMY AND THE POLICE APPEAR TO BE ACTING IN SUPPORT OF THE STRIKERS IN THE GOVGEN'S OFFICE. THIS IS A CONTRADICTION TO PRIMIN'S SPEECH IN WHICH HE URGED END TO STRIKES. THE EMPLOYEES OF THE INLAND REVENUE OFFICE IN ASMARA HAVE RETURNED TO WORK. UNCONFIRMED REPORT INDICATES THT THE AIR FORCE REFUSED TO SUPPORT THE ARMY IN ITS DEMANDS FOR THE TRIAL OF LTGEN ASSEFA AYENE.

3. MILITARY JETS FLEW LOW OVER THE CITY OF ASMARA ABOUT 11 A.M. THIS MORNING. LATER REPORTS INDICATE JETS WERE FLYING IN SUPPORT OF GROUND CONTACT BETWEEN ELF AND SECURITY FORCES. EVEN THOUGH THE AIR FORCE WAS SUPPORTING LOCAL UNITS THEIR LOW FLIGHT PATTERN OVER THE CITY IS HIGHLY UNUSUAL.
PERRY

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Message Attributes

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